

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FEAE-00 FPC-01  
H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04  
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P R 181130Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0163

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 1352

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH ENRG PARM BR GW

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR DEBATE--PRESS COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT'S  
STATEMENT; NUCLEBRAS PRESIDENT CALLS US DIPLOMACY AMATEURISH

1. SUMMARY. FEB. 17 PRESS REPORTED, BUT DID NOT COMMENT ON, THE  
PRESIDENT'S FEB. 16 REMARKS ON NONPROLIFERATION. GOB OFFICIAL  
CALLED EARLIER US FOREIGN POLICY ON THE BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR ISSUE  
"AMATEURISH" AND HE BLAMED THE WHITE HOUSE FOR STIRRING UP EVERY-  
THING. END SUMMARY.

2. THE PRESIDENT'S STATMENTS AT A FEB. 16 PRESS INTERVIEW  
RECEIVED FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE IN THE BRAZILIAN PRESS, UNDER HEAD-  
LINES SOMEWHAT LIKE JORNAL DO BRASILIA'S "CARTER CONFIRMS HIS  
NUCLEAR BOYCOTT." REPORTS WERE THAT THE PRESIDENT SAID: (A)  
HE WAS "TRYING TO CONVINCE" THE FRG NOT TO SELL ENRICHMENT AND  
REPROCESSING FACILITIES TO BRAZIL, AND (B) HE HAD HOPES OF  
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OBTAINING BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH A NUMBER  
OF COUNTRIES AIMED AT ELIMINATING THE POSSIBILITY THAT COUNTRIES  
WHICH DO NOT HAVE NUCLEAR ARMS COULD GET THEM, AND THAT COUNTRIES  
WHICH HAVE THEM COULD INCREASE THEIR NUCLEAR CAPACITY. THERE WAS  
NO COMMENTARY IN THE MAJOR DAILIES ON THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT.

3. NUCLEBRAS PRESIDENT NOGUEIRA BATISTA, ACCORDING TO THE FEB.

17 EDITION OF O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, SAID THAT THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN THE US-BRAZILIAN RELATIONSHIP WERE CAUSED BY THE WHITE HOUSE "WHICH WAS STIRRING UP EVERYTHING." AFTER COMMENTING THAT THE CONDUCT OF DISCUSSIONS THROUGH COMPETENT DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS-EMBASSIES

AND AMBASSADORS--" WHICH PUT THE THING BACK ON THE TRACK," BATISTA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT "IN THE BEGINNING THE AMERICANS ACTED LIKE AMATEURS IN FOREIGN POLICY." BATISTA, ACCORDING TO O ESTADO, RESPONDED TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION ABOUT "PRESSURES SUFFERED BY PETER HERMES IN WASHINGTON" BY SAYING THAT HERMES "MUST HAVE RECEIVED THE WELL KNOWN DOSE" OF PRESSURES. BATISTA REPORTEDLY ALSO REFERRED TO PRAISE BY THE US IAEA DELEGATE FOR THE BRAZIL/FRG/IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT AT THE TIME IT WAS APPROVED. GAZETA (BATISTA AND GERMAN AMBASSADOR RÖDING WERE BOTH AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON FEB. 16.) (BATISTA HAS CALLED THE AMBASSADOR TO SAY, FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S PERSONAL INFORMATION, THAT HE MADE NO STATEMENTS FOR THE PRESS AT ALL.) GAZETA MERCANTIL THE PREVIOUS DAY REPORTED THAT BATISTA EXPLAINED THAT BRAZIL COULD SAVE 30 MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY IF IT HAD ITS OWN ENRICHMENT PLANT TO SUPPLY ANGRA I, II, AND III. BATISTA REPORTEDLY SAID 200 TONS OF FUEL FROM THE US FOR ANGRA I HAD COST 13 MILLION DOLLARS IN A VERY OLD CONTRACT, AND AN UNSPECIFIED QUANTITY OF FUEL FROM URENCO FOR ANGRA II AND II WOULD COST 200 MILLION DOLLARS.

4. THE BRAZILIAN PRESS ON FEB. 16 GAVE INEXACT VERSIONS OF AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS' COMMENTS TO REPORTERS FOLLOWING A FEB. 15 CALL ON SECRETARY

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GENERAL GUERREIRO OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. THE PRESS QUOTED THE AMBASSADOR AS DENYING THAT THE USG WAS EXERTING "PRESSURES" ON THE GOB; RATHER, HE SAID, THE US WAS UNDERTAKING CONTACTS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS WITH BRAZIL AND THE FRG ON THE ISSUE OF IMPEDING "NUCLEAR ARMS PROLIFERATION." THE AMBASSADOR, ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, POINTED OUT THAT HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH GUERREIRO DEALT WITH GLOBAL NUCLEAR POLICY AND NOT SPECIFICALLY WITH THE BRAZILIAN-GERMAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO INTERPRETED THIS FORMULATION TO MEAN THAT THE US IS NOW USING FONMIN SILVEIRA'S TERMINOLOGY (REGARDING WHAT NUCLEAR ISSUES BRAZIL IS WILLING TO DISCUSS WITH THE US). THE PRESS REPORTED, AGAIN INACCURATELY, THAT THE AMBASSADOR DENIED THERE WAS ANY USG INTENTION TO SEND TO BRAZIL SOON AN IMPORTANT ADVISOR TO THE SECRETARY.

5. IN RECENT DAYS THE PRESS HAS REPORTED COMMENTS BY ASSORTED INDIVIDUALS:

-- IN SAO PAULO, OLIVIER GISCARD D'ESTAING, BROTHER OF THE FRENCH PRESIDENT, REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO THE BRAZILIAN

GERMAN AGREEMENT ON PROLIFERATION GROUNDS, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT BELIEVE BRAZIL PLANNED TO USE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR MILITARY ENDS.

-- SEVERAL VISITING GERMAN AND FRENCH SCIENTISTS IN SAO PAULO FOR A CONFERENCE HAVE CRITIZED US POLICY IN RELATION TO THE AGREEMENT. THE PRESIDENT OF THE SWEDISH ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, PROFESSOR GUNNAR HAMBREUS, REPORTEDLY SAID THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC OPINION THINK IT IS "EXTREMELY UNJUST, OUT OF MIND, AND INADMISSABLE THAT ONLY A FEW PRIVILEGED COUNTRIES DOMINATE ALL THE STAGES OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY..." HAMBREUS ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT ALL COUNTRIES WHICH PLAN TO HAVE ACCESS TO THIS TECHNOLOGY SHOULD FORESWEAR NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES THROUGH ADHERENCE TO UNEQUIVOCAL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. HAMBREUS ENDORSED "THE IAEA SUGGESTION" FOR "INTERNATIONALIZED SYSTEMS TO PRODUCE NUCLEAR ENERGY."

6. JORNAL DO BRASIL (FEB. 17) REPORTED THAT CANADIAN PM TRUDEAU WOULD SPEAK OUT NEXT TUESDAY IN WASHINGTON IN FAVOR OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESIDENT'S NONPROLIFERATION INITIATIVES.  
CRIMMINS

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## Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009